

January 27, 2020

Postal Regulatory Commission 901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200 Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket RM2017-3

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POSTAL REGULATORY

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the TennGreen Land Conservancy, I am writing you today to urge you to reconsider the proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation.

These increases, estimated to reach seven percent per year, will have a significant negative impact on TennGreen's ability to carry out its mission to conserve land where people and nature can thrive.

Founded in 1998, TennGreen is the oldest accredited, statewide land conservancy in Tennessee. TennGreen serves all Tennesseans, and through collaboration with members, private landowners, local municipalities, and state and federal agencies, we work to create parks, establish wildlife corridors, expand existing protected public lands, and enhance public recreation opportunities.

Fulfilling our mission is critically dependent on our ability to operate and develop resources efficiently and in a cost-effective way. Our individual physical, intellectual and spiritual well-being is dependent upon access to and experiences in beautiful, natural spaces; we need places to hike and play! As a non-profit, we rely on mail to further engage with our partners, members, and friends, and to solicit contributions.

TennGreen is not able to increase our budget to keep pace with postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years. Any expense, such as postage, that exceeds our means will result in necessary reductions in our use of mail. Such a reduction will lead to less revenue, limiting our reach and reducing the amount our organization can spend on conserving biodiverse habitat

We are doing everything we possibly can to keep costs at a minimum so that we can conserve our rich but rapidly, disappearing natural treasures. We need your help! Thank you for considering this important request.

Sincerely,

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Executive Director

TennGreen Land Conservancy

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